

REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Restriction Requirement dated February 18, 2009, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on March 18, 2009. Please reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

Claims 1-41 are pending in the application and are subject to restriction and/or election requirement. The claims have been restricted under 35 U.S.C. § 121 and 372 as follows:

- I. Claims 1-33 and 40-41, drawn to a method of modifying particles.
- II. Claims 34-39, drawn to a device for modifying particles.

Applicants provisionally elect Group I, without traverse. Having addressed all issues set out in the office action, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal or modification of the restriction requirement. Applicants respectfully request prosecution of claims 1-33 and 40-41.

Respectfully submitted,



Keith M. Tackett
Registration No. 32,008
Patterson & Sheridan, L.L.P.
3040 Post Oak Blvd. Suite 1500
Houston, TX 77056
Telephone: (713) 623-4844
Facsimile: (713) 623-4846
Attorney for Applicant(s)